DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

[redacted]

~~SECRET NOFORN~~

(Classification and Control Markings)

This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on the basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: Argentina

2. SUBJECT: (U) Kidnapping of Hugo Alfredo Anzoarregui (U)

3. ISC NUMBER: N/A

8. REPORT NUMBER: [redacted] (b)(3):10 USC 424

9. DATE OF REPORT: 1975, Mar 14

10. NO. OF PAGES: 3

11. REFERENCES: DIRM 1C2b(8)

4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 1975, Mar 4

5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: 1975, Mar 6 Buenos Aires

6. EVALUATION: SOURCE [redacted] INFORMATION [redacted] (b)(3):10 USC 424

7. SOURCE:
A. USEMB Records & Reports
B. LEGATT

12. ORIGINATOR: [redacted]

13. PREPARED BY: [redacted]

14. APPROVING AUTHORITY [redacted] (b)(3):10 USC 424

15. SUMMARY:

~~(S)~~ This IR covers principal events concerned with the kidnapping of Hugo Alfredo Anzoarregui, Chief Justice, Buenos Aires Supreme Court, Argentina as well as excerpts from a "Memorandum of Conversation" dealing with this kidnapping.

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Rec'd DS-4D/ 26 MAR 75

~~NOFORN to avoid embarrassment to GOA and USG.~~

1. ~~(S/NFD)~~ On 3/5/75 an official of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA), assigned to the Department of Federal Security, provided the following information:

On 2/24/75 Sergio Schneider was picked up by FPA Department of Federal Security officers assigned to the Division de Sumarios (formerly DIPA) and taken to a safe house in Buenos Aires Province. Schneider was not legally detained and not held under the terms of the Executive Power. Schneider had previously been identified as the murderer of FPA Comisario Inspector Sandoval, and was picked up for the purpose of extra-legal interrogation with the utlimate view of eliminating him.

During the morning of 2/28/75, Comisario Mayor Eduardo

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:
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17. DOWNGRADING DATA:
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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:
None

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REPLACES DA FORM 1048, 1 AUG 60. OPNAV FORM 3820 (Rev 10-61), AF FORM 112, JUL 61, WHICH MAY BE USED UNTIL 1 JAN 63.

Pedro Ramirez, a ranking official in the FPA Federal Security, received a telephone call from FPA Chief Luis Margaride instructing Ramirez to produce Schneider, in order that he might be delivered to an undisclosed foreign country by private aircraft prior to the evening of 2/28/75. When Ramirez questioned Margaride as to the purpose of delivering Schneider, Margaride informed him that he had just received a telephone call from the Minister of the Interior instructing the FPA to give up Schneider and to fill out a blank decree indicating that Schneider had been detained the previous week by the order of the Executive Power; that he had opted to leave the country and had departed a week earlier. Ramirez was told by Margaride that Schneider was to be exchanged for Judge Anzoarregui, and that it was vital that government records indicate he had been detained and departed the country the previous week.

It should be noted that it is common practice among FPA Department of Federal Security officials to retain blank decrees for detentions under the Executive Power and to fill in the necessary data when required, even though a subject may have been detained for a considerable period of time.

Ramirez was so incensed at Margaride's orders that he had to take several tranquilizers to calm him down. Several other Department of Federal Security officers talked of arranging for an AAA-type interception of FPA officers transporting Schneider, with a view towards assassinating him before allowing him to go free.

The plan to deliver Schneider to another country, making it appear that he had arrived there during the week, fell through because no country within convenient flying distance of Buenos Aires would agree to such an operation. Therefore, Schneider had to be flown out on commercial aircraft as reported in the news media.

From the foregoing it is obvious that FPA Chief Margaride lied to the Ambassador during their meeting on 3/4/75 (Relevant excerpts from this meeting are given in paragraph #2 below) when he indicated that the Argentine judiciary and only the Argentine Judiciary was responsible for Schneider's release from custody.

2. ~~(S/NFD)~~ "Memorandum of Conversation" Dated 4 March 1975; Subject: Meeting with Comisario Margaride, Chief of Argentine Federal Police. This conversation was held at the U.S. Embassy and participants included Ambassador Robert C. Hill as well as other Embassy officials. Excerpts from this meeting include:

A. "After introductions were made, Comisario Margaride expressed his sincere condolences to the Ambassador on the assassination of Mr. Egan. After Margaride expressed his condolences, the Ambassador introduced him to other participants of the meeting and we sat down and began the discussion."

B. "The Ambassador asked Margaride if he knew whether the judge of the Buenos Aires Province Supreme Court had been released. Margaride said that he had no information on that at the present time. The Ambassador pointed out there might be concern because there was no Government support on providing an explanation to meet the Montoneros' demand in the Egan case but almost concurrently with that, Schneider was released in exchange for the judge. At this Margaride gave a long explanation of the reason. Under the State of Siege a judge has the

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constitutional authority to release a prisoner considreed dangerous to the security of the state if that prisoner voluntarily departs for a foreign country. Margaride stated that neither the police nor the Executive Branch wanted Schneider released; that Schneider was a known criminal, a terrorist, and had been accused of killing a policeman. However, under the existing law the judge could release him. In the case of Schneider there almost seems to be considerable intrigue in the Judicial Branch on this, subjecting it to special interest in that one of their own was kednapped.

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